

SPECIFICATION**TITLE OF THE INVENTION****APPARATUS FOR DISCRIMINATING OPTICAL RECORDING**

5 **MEDIUM AND METHOD FOR DISCRIMINATING OPTICAL
RECORDING MEDIUM**

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

10 The present invention relates to an apparatus for discriminating
an optical recording medium and a method for discriminating an optical
recording medium, and particularly, to an apparatus for discriminating
an optical recording medium and a method for discriminating an optical
recording medium which can quickly discriminate the kind of an optical
recording medium.

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DESCRIPTION OF THE PRIOR ART

20 Optical recording media such as the CD, DVD and the like have
been widely used as recording media for recording digital data and next-
generation type optical recording media having large data recording
capacity and an extremely high data transfer rate have recently been
actively developed.

25 In order to develop an optical recording medium having large data
recording capacity and an extremely high data transfer rate, it is required
to reduce the diameter of the laser beam spot used to record and
reproduce data to a very small size.

In order to reduce the laser beam spot diameter, it is necessary to
increase the numerical aperture of the objective lens for condensing the
laser beam to 0.7 or more, for example, to about 0.85, and to shorten the